

AMENDED CLAIMS

[received by the International Bureau on 08 November 2005 (08.11.05);
original claims 1-7, 9, 13, and 15-20 amended;
original claims 3 and 4 cancelled;
remaining claims unchanged (5 pages)]

What is claimed is:

1. A method for cleaning a grinding machine, comprising:
5 apportioning a predetermined amount of a cleaning material;
inserting the cleaning material into the grinding machine;
grinding the cleaning material using the grinder; and
purging the ground cleaning material from the grinder.
- 10 2. The cleaning method of claim 1 wherein the cleaning material comprises
one or more of the following materials:
 - (a) legumes;
 - (b) corn husks;
 - (c) walnut shells;
 - 15 (d) pecan shells;
 - (e) nuts;
 - (f) rice;
 - (g) dried corn kernels;
 - (h) barley;
 - 20 (i) wheat;
 - (j) grain;
 - (k) fiber;

- (l) legume;
(m) nut;
(n) bark;
(o) shell;
5 (p) corn meal;
(q) bulgur wheat;
(r) oatmeal;
(s) quick oats;
(t) grits; and
10 (u) rice hulls.

5. The cleaning method of claim 1, wherein the cleaning material is in the form of a tablet shaped and sized to correspond to the shape and size of the most common type of product that the grinding machine grinds.

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6. The cleaning method of claim 5, wherein the tablet is sized and shaped like a coffee bean.

7. The cleaning method of claim 1, wherein the cleaning material is colored.

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8. The cleaning method of claim 1, further comprising a binding material.

9. A grinding machine cleaner, comprising:

food-safe coarse materials shaped and sized into a tablet of a predetermined size and shape, wherein the shape and size of the tablet corresponds to the shape and size of materials specified to be ground by the grinder; and

5 a binding material combined with the coarse material to enable the coarse material to retain its shape and size.

10. The grinding machine cleaner of claim 9, wherein the coarse material is colored.

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11. The grinding machine cleaner of claim 9, wherein the tablet is sized and shaped like a coffee bean.

12. The grinding machine cleaner of claim 9, wherein the coarse material is
15 organic.

13. The grinding machine cleaner of claim 12, wherein the organic coarse material comprises one or more of the following ingredients:

a) bulgur wheat; and

20 b) corn meal.

14. The grinding machine cleaner of claim 9, wherein the coarse material is inorganic.

15. An apparatus for making a grinding machine cleaner for a grinding machine, comprising:

a mold having a first portion having a first predetermined size and shape, wherein the size and shape corresponds to the size and shape of the most common type of product that the grinding machine grinds;

a mold having a second portion having a second predetermined size and shape complementary to the first predetermined size and shape; and

a pressing machine for pressing the first and second halves of the mold together at a predetermined force.

16. The apparatus of claim 15, further comprising a binding material to be mixed in with the coarse materials.

17. The apparatus of claim 15, further comprising a coloring agent to be mixed in with the coarse materials.

18. The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the first portion of the mold is sized and shaped like the bottom side of a coffee bean.

19. The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the second portion of the mold is sized and shaped like the top side of a coffee bean.

20. The grinding machine cleaner of claim 15, wherein the coarse material is
5 inorganic.